

Maryland Historical Trust/ National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

WA-HAG-056
MHT Inventory No.

MHT Computer No.

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. For instructions, see the Trust publication National Register Application Guidelines. Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Trinity Lutheran Church

other names

2. Location

street & number 235 N. Potomac Street

☐ not for publication

city, town Hagerstown

☐ vicinity

state Maryland

code

county Washington

code

zip

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

1

1

Noncontributing

Total

Name of related multiple property listing: ☐

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register 1

4. Ownership

☐ See Continuation Sheet.

5. Reserved (leave this space blank)

Submit completed applications to:

National Register Administration
Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2023

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Religion/Religious Structure

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Religion/Religious Structure**7. Description**

Architectural Classifications (enter categories from instructions)

English Gothic

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundations limestonewalls limestoneroof slate

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY:

Begun in 1909, Trinity Lutheran Church is a rock-faced limestone structure with a steeply pitched slate roof in the English Gothic style. It has cast stone trim. Windows and doors have pointed gothic arches. The facade is dominated by a large square corner bell tower, with a crenelated top. Other embellishments include turrets, horizontal banding, and projecting gables. A three story brick educational wing is attached to the rear of the building along the alley. In its present configuration, it dates from 1960.

This church is listed in the National Register as part of the Hagerstown Historic District.

Potomac
Broadway

8. Statement of Significance

the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

☐ national ☐ statewide ☒ localApplicable National Register Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ DCriteria Considerations (Exceptions) ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Period of Significance

Significant Dates

Architecture1909-19461909Religion

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

Architect/Builder

N/AA. N. Richter

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY:**Origin:**

The Lutheran Church was founded in Germany during the reformation in the 16th Century. Martin Luther, an Augustinian Monk, was deeply concerned with the moral and financial abuses of the Catholic Church. The followers of Martin Luther became known as Lutherans. The Germans who emigrated to America in the 17th and 18th Centuries brought their religions with them, and soon established Lutheran Congregations. Many of the early German immigrants settled in Pennsylvania but gradually travelled into Maryland.

Beliefs:

The Lutheran Church believes that Jesus Christ died and rose from the dead to redeem all creatures and bring them to everlasting life in his Kingdom when he returns as Lord. Christ is the final revelation of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as witnessed by the word of God, the Bible.

The Lutheran Church is an apostolic church, tracing the ordained ministry's heritage to the disciples of Jesus. A confessional church, basing faith on the rule and norm of the Scripture as explicated under the doctrine of Justification by Faith apart from works of the Law first revealed by St. Paul and later developed by Martin Luther. The Lutheran Church is a historical church, promulgating and proclaiming the Gospel through preaching, the sacraments, and works of love for our neighbors.

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Other Affiliations:

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is working to restore the catholicity of the body of Christ through dialogues with other Christian denominations: Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, The Episcopal, The Greek Orthodox, The Reformed Church in America, The Catholic Church, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the United Church of Christ.

Ties to Religious History of This Region:

The first Lutherans to settle in Maryland in 1645 were Swedes who came to what is now Cecil County, but the settlement eventually vanished.

The first permanent settlement of Lutherans was made in 1722 in Monacacy (located about 10 miles north of where Frederick would be in 1745). The settlers were German immigrants from Lancaster, PA. They brought with them their Bibles, Hymn books, and devotional books, such as Luther's Catechism. Soon a community of Lutherans had formed, and they began to worship together. John C. Stover, a Lutheran Missionary, came to the Monacacy settlement in 1733 to baptize the children and organize to community into a congregation.

The earliest settlement of Lutherans in what is now Washington County began 30 miles west of the Monacacy settlement on the Conococheague. Its settlers were also German immigrants from Lancaster, PA. The Conococheague congregation began as a union organization of St. Paul's, known as "The Lutheran and Reformed Congregations on the west side of the Conococheague Bridge." In 1769, seven years after Hagerstown was founded, a Lutheran church was organized, and grew rapidly. As had happened with the Monacacy Congregation, the Conococheague Congregation was overshadowed by St. John's of Hagerstown. In 1772, this congregation became linked with St. John's and was served by the same pastor until 1823.

Historical Figures Associated with the Church:

Martin Luther, born at Elislebem Germany, in 1483, entered the Augustinian cloister in Erfurt in 1517 and became a monk. Through his teaching and writings, he hoped to reform the Catholic Church. However his stand shattered medieval Catholicism and initiated Protestantism. Those protestants who became his followers called themselves Lutherans.

History of Construction:

The Church council met on November 9, 1908 to discuss the plans to build a new church, or to remodel the existening one. Trinity Lutheran Church was dedicated on Sunday, March 19, 1911, two years after the groundbreaking ceremony held on June 14, 1909. The cornerstone was laid on October 10, 1909. The building was designed by A. N. Richter from Lebanon, PA. In 1960, the Sunday school portion of the complex was renovated and expanded. The architect for this project was T. Norman Mansell. Trinity was originally part of St. John's, but because of disagreements over enlarging and remodeling St. John's Church, in 1866, the congregation was split and Trinity was formed.

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Other Properties:

(None.)

Historical Anecdotes:

(None known.)

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HISTORICAL CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Maryland

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance 1870-1930 A.D.

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

Religion/Church

Resource Type:

Category: Building

Historic Environment: Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Religious structure

Known Design Source: English Gothic

A History of Western Maryland, Vol.II., Thomas J. Scharf. Philadelphia, 1882.

History of Washington County, Maryland, Vol. I, Thomas J.C. Williams. Hagerstown, 1906.

Here I Stand, A Life of Martin Luther, Roland Bainton.

Church records, land records, news articles.

Research compiled by Jane Martin.

☐ See Continuation Sheet.

Primary location of additional data:

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☒ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____


- ☐ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Specify repository:

Acreage of property _____

USGS quad Hagerstown

UTM References

A 

B

Zone Easting Northing

D

☐ See Continuation Sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

☒ See Continuation Sheet.

Boundary Justification

☒ See Continuation Sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name title Historic Churches Committee

organization Washington County Historical Society

date June 12, 1996

street & number 135 W. Washington Street

telephone 301-797-8782

city or town Hagerstown

state Maryland

zip code 21740

Form 10-300
(Dec. 1968)

Hagerstown
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
N. R. FIELD SHEET

WA-VI WA-MAG-56
73

MD. HISTORICAL TRUST
BOX 1704
ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| STATE: 220 4664708 | |
| COUNTY: | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER | DATE |

1. NAME

COMMON:
Trinity Lutheran Church
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
North Potomac Street [south-east corner at Randolph Avenue]
CITY OR TOWN:
Hagerstown
STATE: Maryland COOE: Washington

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|--|---|---|--|
| District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Public <input type="checkbox"/> | Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Yes: |
| Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> | Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | In Process <input type="checkbox"/> | Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Object <input type="checkbox"/> | Both <input type="checkbox"/> | Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/> | Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> | No: <input type="checkbox"/> |

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> | Government <input type="checkbox"/> | Park <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> | Comments <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> | Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> | Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Educational <input type="checkbox"/> | Military <input type="checkbox"/> | Religious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> | Museum <input type="checkbox"/> | Scientific <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: STATE: COOE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: STATE: COOE:

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: city lot

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local ☐
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:

COUNTY:

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Good <input type="checkbox"/> | Fair <input type="checkbox"/> | Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> | Ruins <input type="checkbox"/> | Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/> |
| INTEGRITY | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | Altered <input type="checkbox"/> | Unaltered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | Moved <input type="checkbox"/> | Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Trinity Lutheran Church is a large stone church built on a cruciform plan and having a corner tower at the 'west' end of the bulidng. Actually, the church is part of a complex of church-related buildings, there being parish house-church hall structures attached on both North Potomac Street and Randolph Avenue sides. A late Gothic Revival building, Trinity Lutheran has the chief characteristics of the 'Modern Gothic' Style: academic correctness coupled with a certain dryness, and a basically late English Gothic inspiration. The latter represented by the large 'west' window and the Perpendicular, spireless corner tower; the window tracery is also late Gothic. The windows, corner buttressing, light window trim, and other constructional highlights comprise the chief decoration, as much of its effect is achieved by the massing and outline [note the gargoyles on the corners of the tower].

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☐20th Century ☒15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☐

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1909

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal ☐Education ☐Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☐losophy ☐architectureAgriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐townscapeArt ☐Landscape ☐Sculpture ☐Commerce ☐Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itorion ☐Conservation ☐Military ☐Theater ☐Music ☐Transportation ☐

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Although not an outstanding example, Trinity Lutheran Church is a good representative example of the late Gothic Revival style, often called 'Modern Gothic'. It has that style's basic characteristics, not the least of which is the picturesque quality evoked by the English tower with its gargoyles. A very strong corner building in the streetscape, Trinity echoes the tower of Zion Evangelical Church one block down the street (and built the same year as the church that Trinity replaced).

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | |
| NW | ° ' " | ° ' " | ° ' " | ° ' " | |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | ° ' " | ° ' " | |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | ° ' " | ° ' " | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | ° ' " | ° ' " | |

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY: | CODE |
|--------|------|---------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

| | | |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|
| NAME AND TITLE: William Morgan | | DATE June 9, 1970 |
| ORGANIZATION Department of Art History | | |
| STREET AND NUMBER: University of Delaware | | |
| CITY OR TOWN: Newark | STATE Delaware | CODE |

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

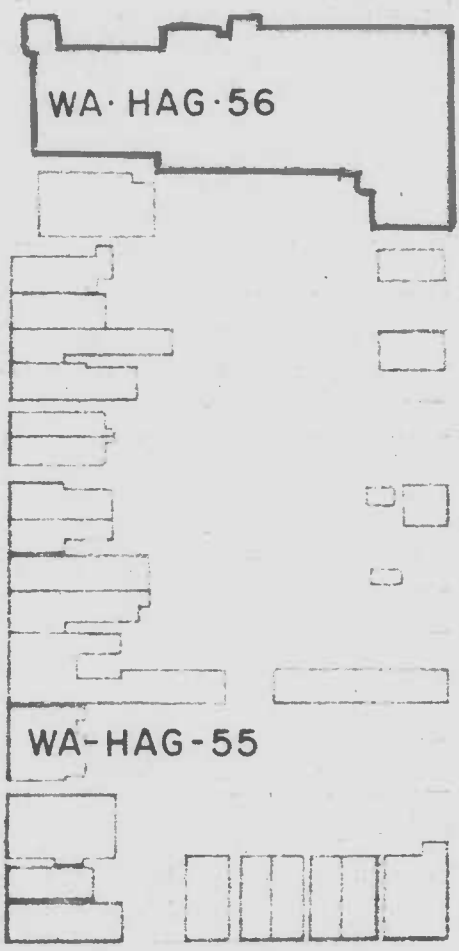
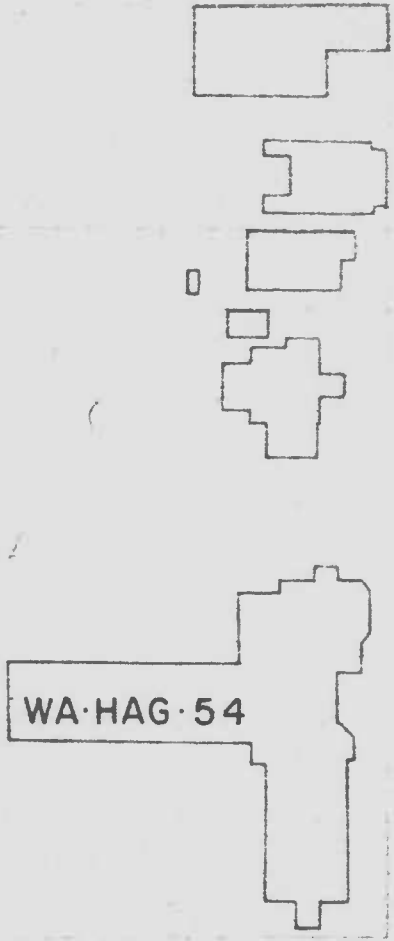
Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

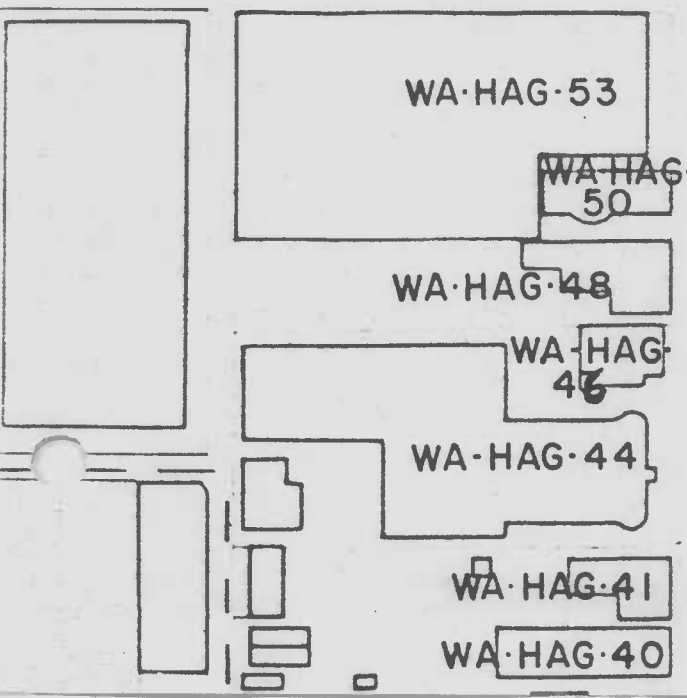
WA-HAG-56
Trinity Lutheran Church
~~235~~ ~~242~~ North Potomac Street
Hagerstown Historic Sites Survey
Map, Ron Andrews, 1977

STREET

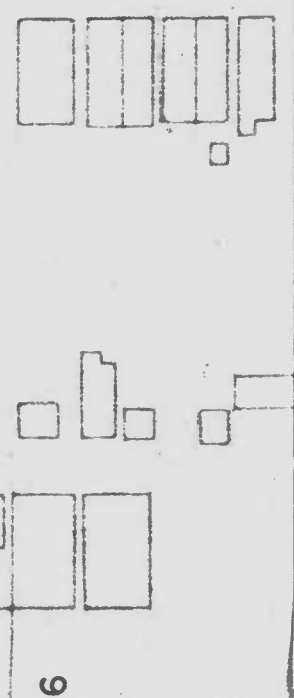
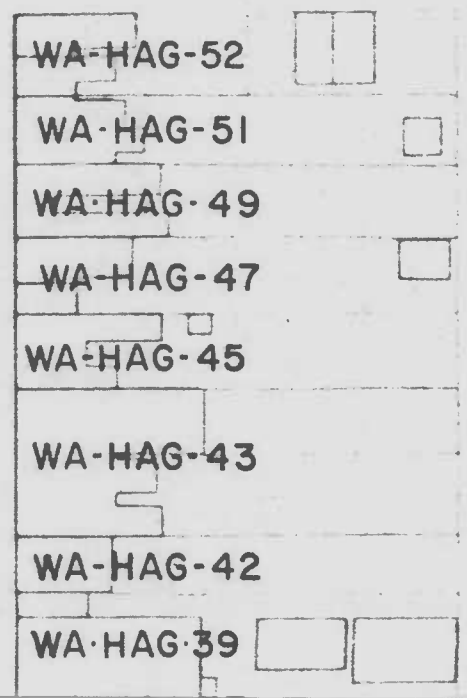
RANDOLPH



STREET



POTOMAC STREET





WA-HAG-56

Trinity Lutheran Church
N. Potomac St.

PHOTOGRAPH BY
WILLIAM D. MORGAN



WA-HAG-56

Trinity Lutheran Church
N. Potomac St.

PHOTOGRAPH BY
WILLIAM D. MORGAN



WA-HAG-56

Trinity Lutheran Church
N. Potomac St.

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